

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
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R 131325Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7832
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
AMCONSUL ADANA
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
AMCONSUL IZMIR
USMISSION NATO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES
EUCOM
USCINCEUR
CINCUSAFE
USDOCOLANDSOUTHEAST IZMIR
DIA WASHDC

UNCLAS ANKARA 4528

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, TU
SUBJECT: TURKISH POST-ELECTION POLITICAL ACTIVITY II

REF: ANKARA 4490 (DTG 101320Z JUN 77)

1. SUMMARY: OVER THE JUNE 11-12 WEEKEND, POLITICAL PARTY
LEADERS CONTINUED TO DISCUSS THE QUESTION OF GOVERNMENT
FORMATION. PRIMIN DEMIREL, REPUBLICAN PEOPLE'S PARTY (RPP)
CHAIRMAN ECEVIT, AND REPUBLICAN RELIANCE PARTY (RR) CHAIRMAN
FEYZIOGLU DOMINATED THE POLITICAL HEADLINES. ECEVIT CLAIMED
THAT HE WILL CONTINUE HIS SEARCH FOR 13 GOOD MEN, WHILE
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PRIMIN DEMIREL REPEATED THAT THE NATIONALIST FRONT WILL REMAIN
SOLID AND NOT PERMIT GOVERNMENT TO BE HANDED OVER TO
"LEFTISTS". FEYZIOGLU SAID THAT HIS RR WILL NOT JOIN
NEW NATIONALIST FRONT AND CALLED ON CHAIRMAN OF RPP AND
JUSTICE PARTY (JP) TO PUT ASIDE THEIR DIFFERENCES AND WORK
TOGETHER FOR THE GOOD OF TURKEY. END SUMMARY.

2. DURING A PRESS CONFERENCE IN ISTANBUL ON FRIDAY, JUNE 10, ECEVIT AFFIRMED THAT HE IS SEEKING 13 DEPUTIES "CONSCIOUS OF THEIR RESPONSIBILITY TO THE STATE AND NATION AND WITH HUMANE FEELING TOWARD THE YOUTH AND CHILDREN OF TURKEY WHO WILL ACT BEYOND PERSONAL AND PARTY TIES." IN ADDITION, ECEVIT LAUNCHED AN ATTACK ON THE ECONOMIC POLICIES OF THE FORMER NATIONALIST FRONT GOVERNMENT WHICH HE ALLEGED EXHAUSTED TURKEY'S ECONOMIC RESOURCES AND BROUGHT THE COUNTRY TO THE BRINK OF ECONOMIC COLLAPSE. ECEVIT CRITICIZED WHAT HE CHARACTERIZED AS THE INCOHERENCE AND INDECISION OF THE NATIONALIST FRONT AND SAID THAT THE WHOLE WORLD IS AWAITING THE FORMATION OF A TURKISH GOVERNMENT WHICH IS CAPABLE OF MAKING DECISIONS.

3. IN AN INDIRECT REPLY ON SATURDAY MORNING JUNE 11, PRIMIN DEMIREL CRICIZED THE RPP FOR ITS PREMATURE ELECTION VICTORY DECLARATION AND SAID THAT THIS WAS ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE OF THE RPP'S GREED FOR POWER. SAYING THAT THE RPP WILL RESORT TO ANY MEANS IN ORDER TO GOVERN, DEMIREL BLASTED ECEVIT'S SEARCH FOR 13 MEN WHO WILL LOOK BEYOND PERSONALITY AND PARTY TIES. THE JP CHAIRMAN SAID THAT WHILE BEFORE THE JUNE 5 VOTING HIS PARTY HAD HOPED A COALITION WOULD NOT BE NECESSARY, THE JP IS NOW WILLING AND ABLE TO HEAD A REVIVED NATIONALIST FRONT.

4. RESPONDING TO DEMIREL'S ACCUSATION THAT THE RPP MIGHT ENGAGE IN "SHAMEFUL ACTS/ TO INCREASE IS SEATS IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, RPP CHAIRMAN ECEVIT SAID JUNE 12 "NO ONE CAN COMPETE WITH THE JP IN THAT LINE". ECEVIT SPECIFIED UNCLASSIFIED

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THAT THE RPP WOULD NOT STOOP TO COOPERATION WITH MURDERERS, BRIBERY, AND BORROWING MEMBERS FROM ANOTHER PARTY, AS HE ALLEGED THE JP HAD DONE TO FORM A GOVERNMENT IN 1975. HE SAID THAT THE RPP MAY HAVE TO MODIFY ITS PROGRAMS TO ATTRAC SUPPORT, BUT HE ADDED THAT HE COULD PROMISE ONLY MORAL SATISFACTION, NOT MATERIAL REWARD, TO THOSE WHO SUPPORT HIM.

5. RR CHAIRMAN FEYZIOGLU TOLD THE PRESS JUNE 11 THAT THE THREE RR DEPUTIES WILL NOT TAKE PART IN A COALITION WITH THE NATIONALIST ACION PARTY (NAP) AND NATIONAL SALVAION PARTY (NSP). FEYZIOGLU RECOMMENDED A DIALOGUE BETWEEN THE JP AND RPP TO PREVENT AN RPP SWING TO THE LEFT AND THE JP GIVING IN TO RIGHT-WING FORCES. HE CALLED ON THE CHAIRMEN OF THE RPP AND JP TO PUT ASIDE THEIR EGOS AND ESTABLISH A CIVILIZED DIALOGUE TO FACE THE DOMESTIC AND EXTERNAL PROBLEMS OF TURKEY.

6. THE GRAND NATIONAL ASSEMBLY WILL CONVENE MONDAY AFTERNOON JUNE 13 TO SWEAR IN DEPUTIES AND NEW SENATORS. OVER THE

WEEKEND, PRIMIN DEMIREL AFFIRMED THAT HE, ALONG WITH OTHER NATIONALIST FRONT MINISTERS, WILL RESIGN AS SOON AS THE NEW NATIONAL ASSEMBLY IS SWORN IN. IT IS EXPECTED THAT PRESIDENT KORUTURK WILL THEN CALL ON RPP CHAIRMAN ECEVIT, AS HEAD OF THE PARTY WHICH WON A PLURALITY OF NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SEATS IN THE ELECTION, TO SEEK TO FORM A GOVERNMENT.
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Message Attributes

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Disposition Event:
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